

Copy-write Editorials.

Only nine more days till Christmas. The goods news but it's true, We told you to shop early, Still you've got it all to do.

A Chicago woman dislocated her jaw while laughing.

F. H. Yost will coach the Michigan football team again next year.

Since January 1st, 1913 children have been killed while playing in the streets of New York, by street traffic.

Treat 'em nice boys, there are not enough to go around. There are 3,300,000 more males than females in the United States.

A portion of the Appian way at Rome is being disfigured by the rails of a modern tramway and vigorous protests are being made.

"Mona Lisa," Leonardo da Vinci's great painting, which was stolen from the Louvre in Paris more than two years ago, was recovered in Italy and the thief captured.

Gov. John K. Tener, of Pennsylvania, is President of the National League of Baseball Clubs and "set up" a banquet to the club owners in New York Friday night.

That the increase in longevity, due to the modern health movement, has saved many insurance companies from ruin, was the declaration of Dr. William T. Sedgwick, of Boston.

Wisconsin has a new marriage law requiring a license to be taken out five days ahead of the wedding and all men must submit to a physical examination before they can marry.

In recognition of the distinguished services of the late Col. Gaillard, a member of the Isthmian Canal Commission, the House passed a bill to appropriate \$14,000 for Mrs. Gaillard.

The New York Legislature in a week's special session passed a state-wide primary law, abolishing conventions; a working-man's compensation law; and the Massachusetts form of ballot, doing away with party devices or squares.

Chicago will have 72 public "ice rinks," or skating places, under police supervision. Hopkinsville will have fine skating at Edgewater Park if there is an ice spell, as the flood-gate has been put in the dam to fill the river channel.

Elmer Howell, aged 14, won the Warren county corn growing prize, making 86 bushels and 14 pounds on one acre. "Billie" Bryant, aged 10, brother of Lester Bryant, champion power of the United States for 1912, who died in Washington, was second with 78 bushels and 46 pounds.

The city of Dayton, Ohio, has gone a degree in advance of the commission form of government and wants to borrow the German idea of a "City Manager." Col. Geo. W. Goethals, who dug the Panama canal, was offered up to \$25,000 a year to take the position of manager and direct the city's affairs.

Evelyn Thaw is one of the three best attractions of the present season. She took in \$20,000 in one week in Boston and \$29,000 in Chicago. She will be at the Masonic theatre in Louisville Dec. 31 and at a meeting of women held Saturday Mrs. Thomas Rodman proposed a boycott of her performance, but nothing definite was decided upon.

Perugia, the Italian who stole "Mona Lisa" in Paris, seems to be a crank who thought he was doing a patriotic deed to return the picture to Italy. He had kept it behind the canvas of a cheap picture in a frame. The masterpiece has been fully identified and will be exhibited a few days in Florence before it is returned to France. A reward of \$48,000 was offered for its recovery.

BUSY DAY
FOR CUPID

Three Weddings Are Scheduled For Tomorrow in the County.

ALL ARE PROMINENT COUPLES

Pembroke, Church Hill and Newstead Bells to Become Brides.

Wednesday evening at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Luther H. Smithson, near Church Hill, Mr. Huston Gary and Miss Mary Bell Smithson will be united in marriage. The officiating minister will be Rev. H. E. Gabby, of this city. There will be a reception following the wedding. Mr. Gary, who has recently returned to this county from Union county, has charge of the farms of Dr. John D. Clardy of Newstead.

Gaines-Beazley.

Mr. Robert U. Gaines and Miss Annie Beazley will be married Wednesday evening at the home of the bride's grandfather, Mr. Jos. Beazley, on Walnut street. Rev. C. M. Thompson will perform the ceremony.

Haile-Lantrip.

License was issued yesterday for the marriage of Miss Lula M. Lantrip and Mr. A. B. Haile. The marriage takes place tomorrow at Lantrip's, where the contracting parties reside.

Dulin-Gray.

Mr. Floyd Frank Dulin and Miss Myrtle Aileen Gray will be married tomorrow evening at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Nathan B. Gray, near Pembroke.

Fowler-Jones.

Mr. Cody Fowler, of Little Rock, Ark., and Miss Katherine Jones, daughter of Mr. E. M. Jones, of Newstead, will be married Wednesday evening at the home of the bride.

JACK MEADOR DEAD

Passed Away In California Last Saturday.

Friends of A. J. Meador received news of his death yesterday morning. Information was meager. His son, Byron Meador, who is living in Nashville, received a telegram Sunday morning informing him of his death, which occurred in California. It is not known whether or not the remains will be brought here for burial.

Mr. Meador is survived by his wife and one child, Byron Meador. He made his home in this city until a few years ago and was a prominent hardware dealer, one time being associated in business with the late Chas. A. Thompson, under the firm name of Thompson & Meador. He was also at different times head salesman in other hardware houses. After leaving here he spent several years in Florida, but had been living in California for some time.

Von Otto Departs.

William Von Otto, the young musician who has rendered such sweet music at the Princess this fall, has finished his engagement and left the city Sunday. Big crowds heard his last violin solos Saturday.

Many Additions.

Rev. J. H. Dew, who held the meetings here at the Baptist Church in November, has just closed a revival at the Walnut Street Baptist Church in Louisville, in which there were 167 additions to the church.

GOVERNMENT BY COMMISSION
How The Plan Originated And Its Present Status.

The commission form of municipal government substitutes for the mayor and board of aldermen a commission of five men, elected by the people just as they would elect assemblymen or aldermen. Each of these five men have special supervision, such as the police, the fire department, or water supply. There is no magic in the number five, any community which wants a commission of fifteen or of three can have it.

The mayor is one of the board and has very little authority. Virtually, he is simply the chairman of the commission, with not much more privilege than the right to call them to order.

The commission form of government, as usually understood, may be illustrated with the system adopted in Des Moines, Iowa.

The general plan is that the citizens by primary may nominate candidates for mayor and four commissioners, who shall have complete charge of town business, legislature, executive and judicial. Any person can be nominated by a petition of 25 citizens. The 10 candidates having the highest vote at the primary two weeks later are submitted to the citizens for an election, and the five candidates having the highest votes at this election comprise the city council, with full powers—legislative, executive and judicial. They manage the business as completely as the board of directors could manage the business of a bank.

There are five departments, as follows: First a department of public affairs; second a department of accounts and finance; third a department of public safety; fourth a department of streets; and fifth, a department of parks and public property.

The Mayor, by virtue of his office, has charge of the department of public affairs, with general supervision over the other departments, and receives a salary of not over \$3,500. The other commissioners receive a salary of not over \$3,000. The council, by majority vote, appoints all other officials of the town—city clerk, solicitor, tax assessor, police judge, treasurer, auditor, civil engineer, city physician, marshal, chief of fire department, street commissioner, library trustee and all other necessary officers. These selections are made under a board of civil service commissioners. Each commissioner appoints the subordinate employees in his own department and each commissioner is held responsible for the successful management of his department.

Extreme pains are taken to prevent fraud in the elections. For instance, the fullest publicity is required of campaign funds. Both the source and the manner of expenditures are required to be reported under oath. No officer or employee is permitted to be interested, directly or indirectly, in any contract with the city or in any public service corporations, or to accept any free service therefrom.

All franchises or right to use the streets, highways, or public places of the city can be granted, renewed or extended only by ordinance, and every franchise or grant for inter-

urban or street railways, gas or water works, electric light or power plants, heating plants, telegraph or telephone systems, or public service utilities, must be authorized or approved by a majority of the electors voting thereon at a general or special election.

Every motion, resolution and ordinance of the council must be in writing, and the vote of every member of the council, for and against it, must be recorded. The council is required to print and effectively distribute each month, in pamphlet form, a detailed, itemized statement of all receipts and expenses and a summary of its proceedings during the preceding month. At the end of each month the council must cause a full and complete examination of all the books and accounts of the city to be made by competent accountants and publish the report in pamphlet form.

Every ordinance or resolution appropriating money or ordering any street improvements or sewer, or making or authorizing any contract or granting any franchise, must be complete in its final form and remain on file with the city clerk for public inspection at least one week before its final passage or adoption.

Nothing is permitted to be done in secrecy or in the dark. The public business is public.

Ward lines are abolished in the choice of the city commissioners, so that each citizen votes for each commissioner both in nominating and electing him. Partisanship is eliminated. No party emblems are permitted on the ticket, but the candidates in serial order, without party designation, and are nominated and elected as far as possible on the ground of personal fitness.

In Galveston the city government was given into the hands of five men, three of whom under the original charter were appointed by the governor and two elected by the people. By a decision of the supreme court, the choosing of all the commissioners was subsequently made elective.

There is a Mayor, or general manager, and four managers of particular departments. All power resides in the commission. A majority vote of the body is final.

The mayor is presiding officer and general manager of the affairs of the city, but he has no power beyond his vote as commissioner, except some minor abilities to act in case of emergency. The commissioners must also come to the board to act. The commission at its first meeting divided its departments among its members by vote under these four heads: Commissioner of finance and revenue, police and fire commissioner, commissioner of street and public property, and water works and sewerage commissioner.

The plan does not insure good government; no mere system can do that. The people must be alert, interested in the city and its administration and ready to act if their interests are not guarded. No scheme of government can take the place of these qualities on the part of citizens.

Some Salaries Compared.

Councilman Buckner has gotten some comparative figures on salaries in Hopkinsville and the near-by third class cities, as follows:

Mayor—Hopkinsville \$600, Henderson \$1,200, Owensboro \$1,800, Bowling Green \$1,000.

Judge—Hopkinsville \$1,500, Henderson \$800, Owensboro \$1,000, Bowling Green \$750.

Attorney—Hopkinsville (with commission) \$1,300, Bowling Green \$650, Henderson \$500 and 10 per cent commission on fines collected by him.

Charity by The Elks.

Exalted Ruler H. E. Brown has appointed the following Santa Claus committee to dispense charity to the poor on Christmas: Ike Hart, chairman, E. J. Duncan, R. A. Cook, Vezzo Barnes, Jno. P. Thomas and Ernest Cravens.

Mistake Corrected.

The report that Dr. Austin Ball and Dr. I. Fierstein would surrender their offices in the Summers building to the Kentucky Public Service Co., was a mistake. The company's lease does not include that part of the building.

ROUSING
MEETING

H. B. M. A. Will Get Into Line For Great Work in 1914.

THE IMPERIAL QUESTION UP

Steps To Be Taken To Secure Sittings of Federal Court.

The H. B. M. A. had on its working clothes at its meeting Friday night. A large crowd was present and the coming year's work will be greater than the one now drawing to an end. Inspiring speeches were made by M. C. Forbes, Mayor Meacham and others and though much has already been accomplished, yet the Association thinks it has just made a start in upbuilding the city and its best interests.

The often talked of matter of securing sittings of the Federal Court here was brought up by John Feland and freely discussed. As the government building will be completed next year, and as a slight change in the plans would make plenty of room for holding the sittings of Judge Evans' court in a new district, to be composed of Christian, Todd, Trigg and four or five other counties, the Association will make a strong effort, backed up by every available influence, to have sittings of the court in the center of the court in the center of a district more convenient to the people than having to go to Owensboro, Bowling Green and Paducah when summoned as petit or grand jurors before the court.

The question of the Imperial Tobacco Company's withdrawing its business from Kentucky was discussed at considerable length. The effects on farmers and business in all its branches were viewed from every standpoint and the consensus of opinion is that the county and city cannot afford to lose a corporation that has proven a great factor in building up the city as well as being a great help to the planters who have sold their crops to the Imperial for many years. The best of feeling for the company and the desire that it shall continue business in this part of the black patch was ordered to be expressed in resolutions by a committee, composed of B. Gordon Nelson, T. J. McReynolds and C. M. Meacham. These resolutions will be prepared by the committee and forwarded to the President of the company, Mr. Hodge, as soon as practicable.

FALLING SLATE

Crushes Former Citizen of This County.

Elijah Cravens, who moved to Herrin, Ill., about a year ago, was the victim of a serious accident recently and he is still confined to his home as a consequence. While Mr. Cravens was at work in a coal mine he was caught under a mass of falling slate and crushed in such a manner that it was feared that he would die of his injuries. His jaw bone was broken and his head and face badly lacerated.

Mr. Cravens was reared near Julian and resided here some time before moving to Herrin.

Silver Wedding.

Last Saturday was a memorable day in the home of Mr. and Mrs. John M. Morris. It was the 25th anniversary of their marriage and their silver wedding was an occasion that was highly enjoyed by those present, all of whom entered into the festivities with enthusiasm befitting the day and wished Mr. and Mrs. Morris many more years of happiness.

McLEAN WILL
CLOSE DOWN

College Has Been Merged With Transylvania University.

STATEMENT BY TRUSTEES.

The Last School Session Will Be Held This Week.

McLean College, one of Hopkinsville's oldest educational institutions, has changed hands and will be closed this week and will not reopen for the present. It becomes the property of Transylvania University. The following statement was given out yesterday:

It is hereby announced that overtures of McLean College to Transylvania University soliciting that the former may be merged into the latter have met with favorable response and been agreed to; and that the College will conclude its work here at the end of this week.

To this announcement it is desired to add a short but explicit explanation to all the friends of McLean College who may not be already conversant with the causes of its present plans and purposes.

After the fire of February, 1912, which destroyed Rosh Hall, money and other assets were secured, which together with certain real estate proposed to be alienated if necessary, were sufficient for the rebuilding of that hall without incurring debt. No provision, however, was made in advance for furnishing and equipping the new building. This was because in order to rebuild in time for school in the autumn the contract must be let without delay; for it had required until about June 1st to cover the contract price of the building itself. And the prospect of the means with which to furnish and equip seemed to conservative friends and business men very good. Suffice it, that prospect was not realized and debt of course has resulted.

Also at the time of letting the contract for the new building there seemed to be good prospect of a beginning of endowment. But after almost two years of expensive effort practically nothing is done in this direction. On the contrary, something of the expense of the effort has gone to swell indebtedness.

Also the fire of course left the school itself in a disabled and somewhat disordered condition which has continued until now and has made it necessary for the Trustees to remit the rentals hitherto paid by the management and in addition to help by providing an extra teacher for several months.

Also the College has received from time to time gifts of considerable sums on the annuity plan, i. e., sums for which interest is paid during the life time of the donor. Some \$12,000 of such gifts make their regular drafts for interest.

And besides drought and reports of typhoid fever among students as having originated at the College greatly reduced the number of matriculates for this year and thus rendered more difficult the maintenance of the school within and the appeal for endowment without.

In a word, about \$20,000 in cash is needed to meet the indebtedness of the College. A long term obligation of \$5,000 more is to be cared for. In addition, annuities on about \$12,000 must be paid. The interesting bearing obligations of the school are thus not far from \$37,000. Against these there are some subscriptions and other assets apart from the real estate of the school amounting to several thousand dollars, but they are not now available. Meantime interest and other fixed expenses go on.

In this extremity the Trustees of

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